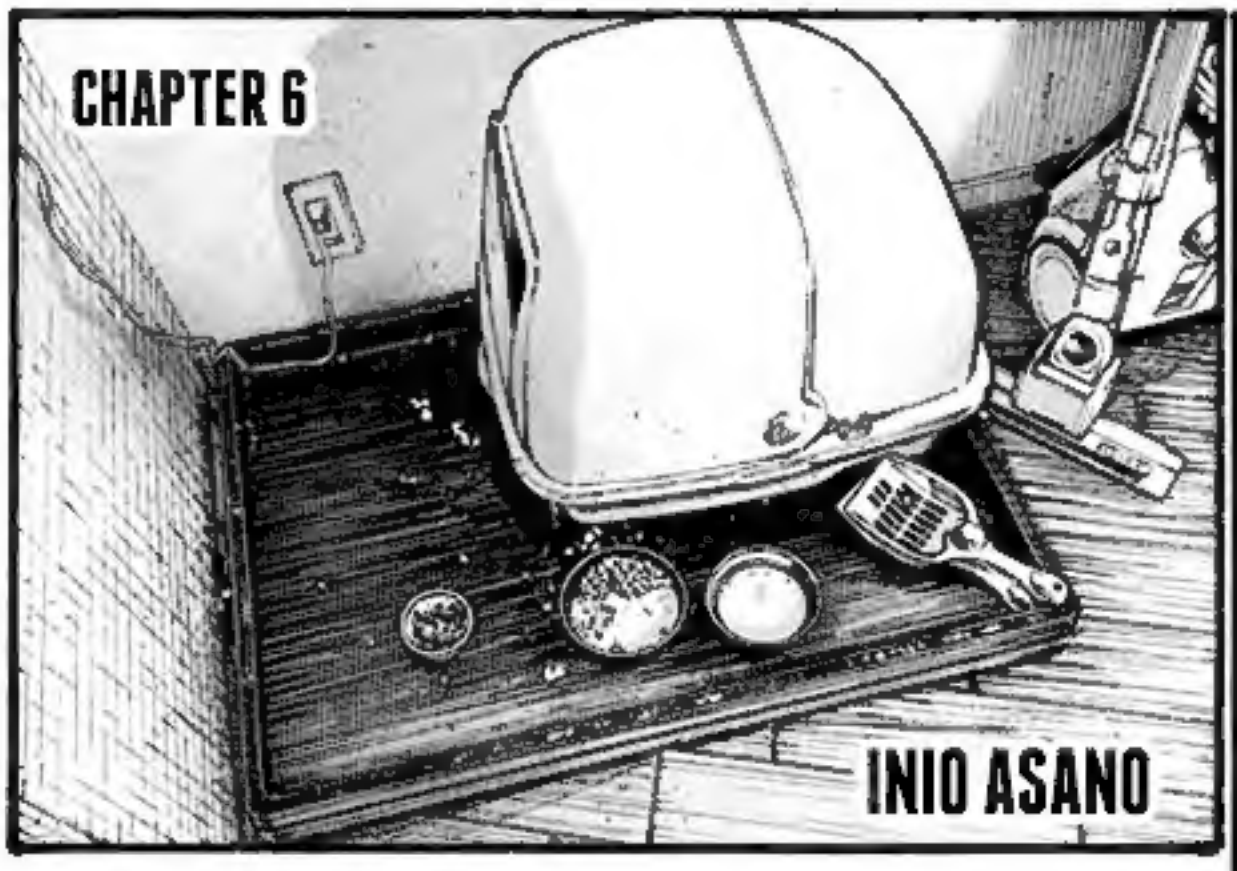
SUMMER ENDS, AND HIS DAYS ONCE AGAIN BECOME STAGNANT. HE KNOWS HE SHOULD MOVE ON, AND YET CAN'T FORCE HIMSELF.

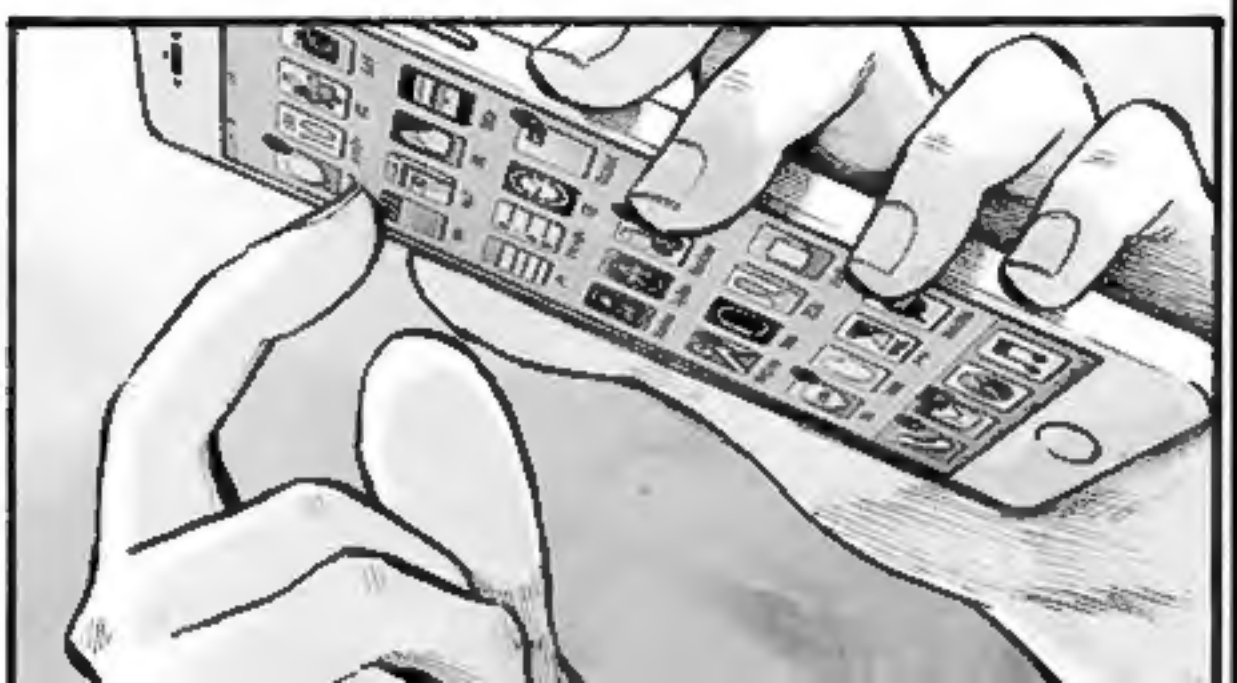
HAVING SEPARATED FROM MY WIFE, BY THE END OF SUMMER I MOVED OUT OF MY WORK STUDIO AND RETURNED TO MY BACHELOR APARTMENT.

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR



SEVERAL MONTHS HAVE PASSED, AND MY YET-TO-BE-UNPACKED SUITCASES ARE STREWN ABOUT. MY ROOM AND WORK ARE BOTH UNTOUCHED.

AND YET THE HARDEST PART OF LIVING ALONE IS NOT BEING ABLE TO PLAY WITH THE CAT WHENEVER I WANT.



DOWNFALL

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Akari @akari_pikapikari
@fukazawa_kaoru Fukasawa-sensei, how are you?
It's been a year since you finished "Sayosan"...Something sad happened the other day so I reread it again. It's definitely one of my fav titles! It's getting colder in the evenings, so please take care of yourself!ヽ(・ㅂ・)ﾉ

2

FROM TIME TO TIME, I LONGED TO TALK TO OTHER PEOPLE, BUT THAT HUNGER WAS SATED EASILY ENOUGH WITH A SUPERFICIAL EXCHANGE ONLINE.

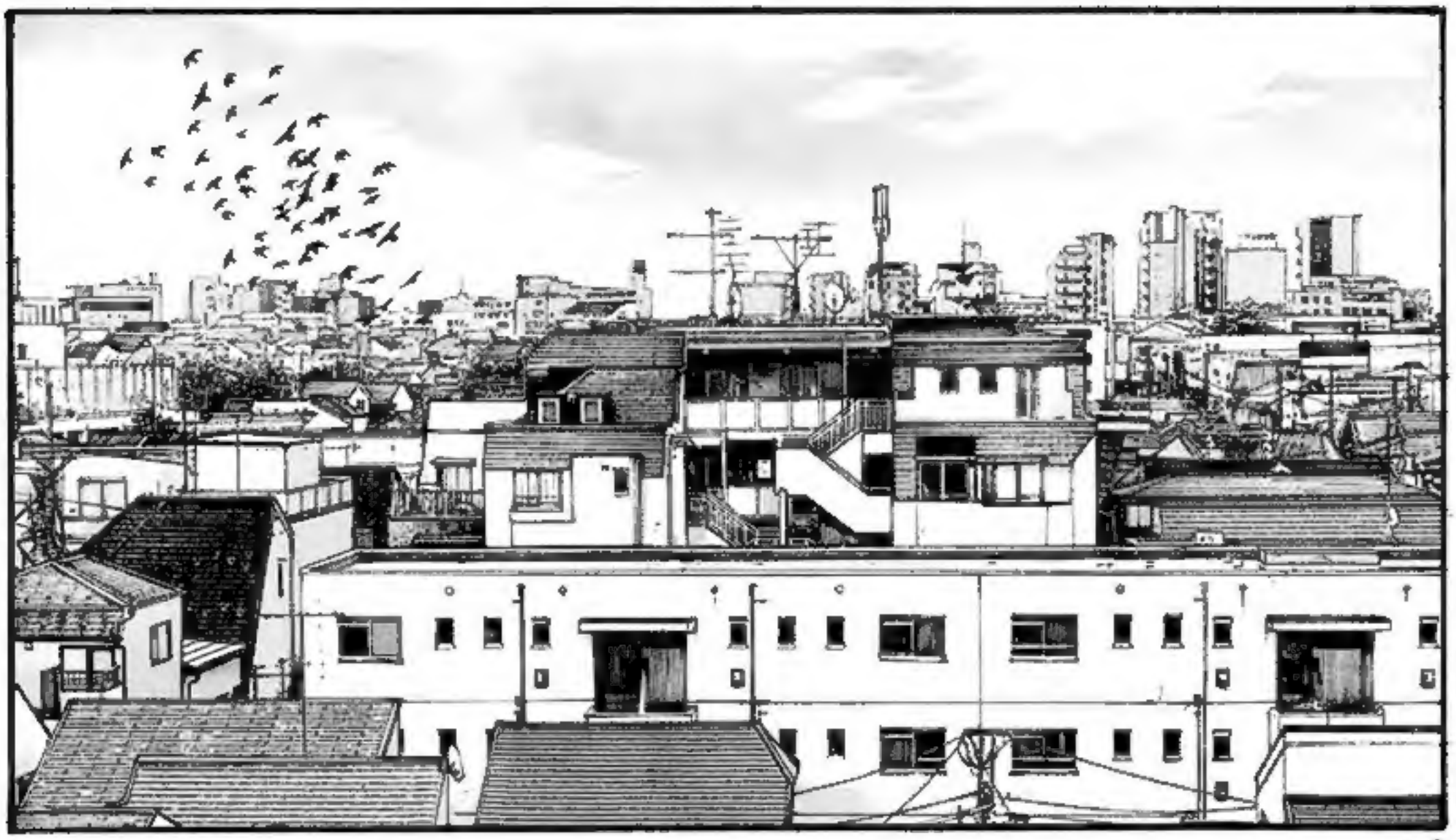
take care of yourself!ヽ(・ㅂ・)ﾉ

↓ reply to **@akari_pikapikari**

thank you so much! I'm working hard to bring you my new work! Take care of yourself too and don't get sick!

GIF REPLY

q w e y



3

AND SHE HASN'T CONTACTED ME EITHER.

SINCE I SAID GOODBYE TO HER AT THAT STATION IN HER HOMETOWN, I HAVEN'T REALLY FELT LIKE CONTACTING HER.

AND SOMETIMES I THINK ABOUT "CHIFUYU."

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

HEEY, FUKASAWA! FUKASAWAAA!

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE! HOW YOU BEEN?

STILL ENJOYING THE LOAF-AROUND LIFE, ARE WE? GET WORKING ON SOMETHING, MISTER!

WHO KNOWS, YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE TO GET A PRIZE NEXT TIME AROUND!

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

ER, RIGHT...

DUNNO KNOW ABOUT THAT, BUT...

OH...

MISS MAKIHARA! YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT! KUSAKARI-SENSEI IS HERE!

NO WAY! I'M, LIKE, HIS BIGGEST FAN!

WE HAVE TO GO SAY HI!

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

SHE READ THE MESSAGE BUT NEVER REPLIED. I SPENT NEW YEAR'S ALONE.

AS THE YEAR CAME TO AN END, I SUDDENLY BEGAN TO HAVE DAYS WHERE MY LONELINESS WAS UNBEARABLE, AND I, JUST ONCE, ASKED CHIFUYU OUT TO DINNER.

READ

I'M AT THE TICKET GATE

ON MY WAY THERE 13:02

12/15 (THU)

READ 20:27

GOOD EVENING. IF YOU HAVE FREE TIME SOMETIME THIS MONTH OR NEXT MONTH, WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO EAT SOMETHING WITH ME?

SYSTEM | PLAYING

BEST GIRLS OF THE SEASON!

本日!! 人気!! tory 動画 写真 19) 55/86 受付中!!

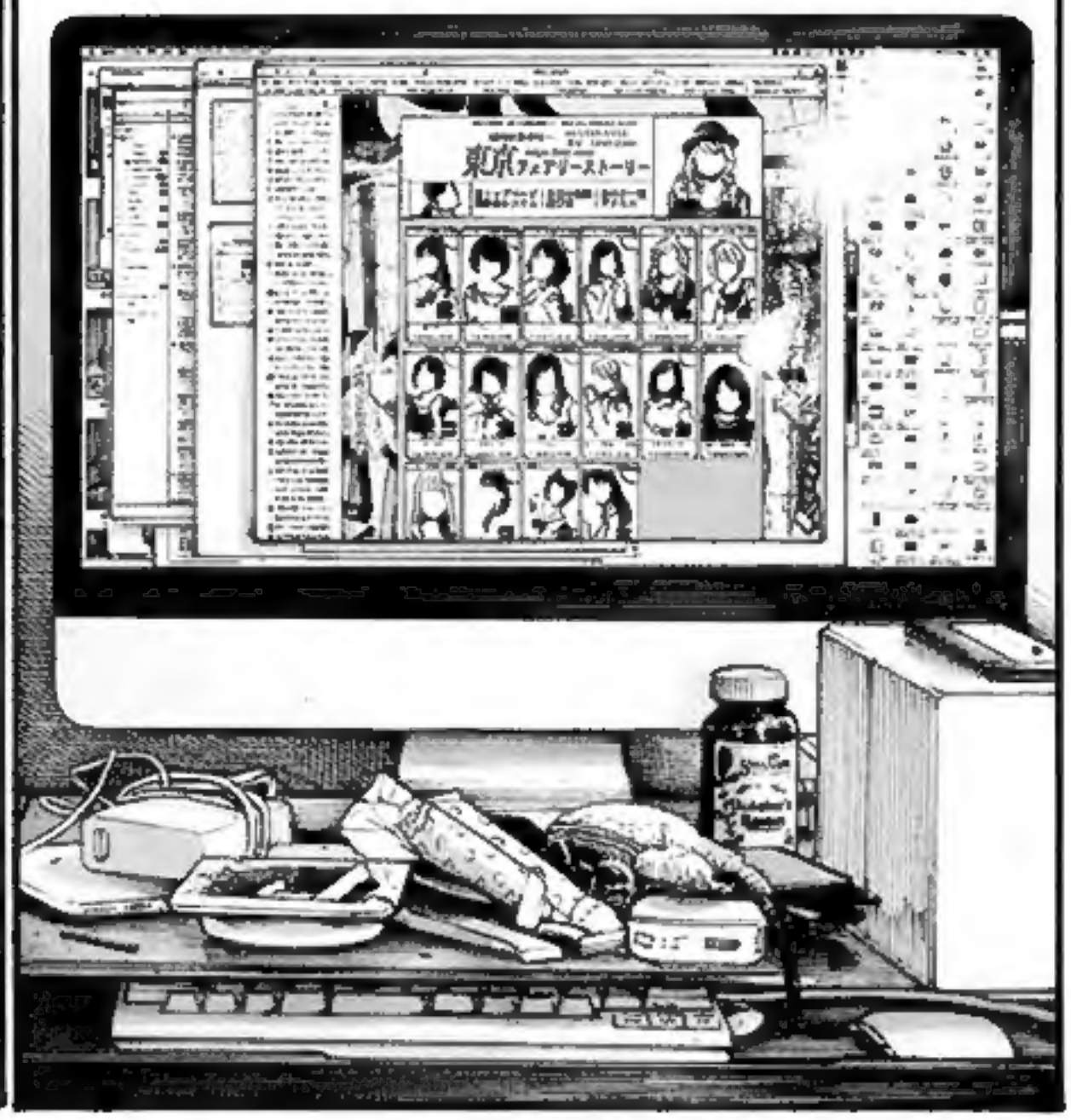
15:00~19:00 TODAY!! HOT! Fairy Story VIDEO PICS CHIFUYU (21) T148 83(B)/54/82

16:00~22 Fairy まり T162

本日!! 人気!!

19:00~23:00 本日!! 本命

19:00~23



SHE MUST HAVE BEEN LETTING ME KNOW THAT I COULD ALWAYS CALL HER THROUGH THE SHOP IF I FELT SO INCLINED. IT WAS IRRITATING.

"CHIFUYU" WAS STILL THERE ON THE LANDING PAGE OF THE SHOP'S WEBSITE, AS IF NOTHING EVER HAPPENED.

6

HER EYES REALLY ARE FELINE.

THEY AREN'T THE EYES OF A STRAY CAT, THOUGH, BUT THE EYES OF A CHERISHED HOUSECAT.

BY NOW... SHE'S PROBABLY FOUND A NEW FAT-WALLETED CUSTOMER TO CURRY FAVOR WITH.

OH. WELL, I'M SURE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HANGING YOUR HAT UP FOR A WHILE, FUKASAWA.

NO... I'M HOPING I'LL GET IT DONE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

I'M SORRY...

I CAN'T QUITE STOP IMPULSE BUYING.

IT DOESN'T HURT IN MODERATION. HAS YOUR NEXT SERIALIZATION BEEN DECIDED ALREADY?

I CAN'T HELP BUT GET STRESSED ABOUT NOT DRAWING ANYTHING...

UNLIKE BEFORE, THEY AREN'T ORDERING MORE RE-PRINTS, SO...

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I WORKED LIKE A MADMAN FOR THE PAST DECADE, SHAVING YEARS OFF MY OWN LIFE, FOR THAT FREEDOM.

I WAS LIKE HER, ONCE.

CHIFUYU MOVED TO TOKYO IN SEARCH OF FREEDOM.

6	28-11-30	ACCOUNT TRANSFER	81.100		¥29.101,[illegible]
7	28-11-30	ACCOUNT TRANSFER	200.000		
8	28-11-30	ACCOUNT TRANSFER			

9	28-12- 2	ACS	34.227	0137-0039	¥29.06
10	28-12- 2	ACS	540	TRANSFER FEE	¥29.066
11	28-12- 5	TRANSFER 2	SHOGAKUKAN	201.899	¥29.268
12	28-12-12	TRANSFER 2	CHODEN CORP.	26.377	¥29.295.00
13	28-12-14	ACCOUNT BALANCE	80.000		¥29.215.004
		1	MURATA PUB.	41.602	¥29.256.606

T/N: 1 DOLLAR = 100 YENS

I GAINED BUT A FEW YEARS OF FREEDOM.

AND FOR THOSE 10 YEARS OF SLAVERY

MANGA STREAM .com
DO NOT MIRROR

HELLO THERE, TOKUMARU.

IT'S FUKASAWA...

I'M VERY SORRY FOR NOT CONTACTING YOU FOR SUCH A LONG TIME...

YOU HAVE REACHED THIS NUMBER'S VOICEMAIL BOX.

PLEASE LEAVE YOUR MESSAGE AFTER THE BEEP.

AND THE FACT THAT I FEEL PRESSURED TO WRITE A BESTSELLING WORK HAS STARTED TO GET TO ME MENTALLY...

I'M CALLING ABOUT THE NEW WORK. TO BE HONEST I STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANYTHING DONE...

JUST READ MY WORK AS IF I'M A ROOKIE ARTIST,

AND LET ME KNOW HONESTLY IF I HAVE ANY TALENT, OKAY..?

CAN'T I JUST DRAW WHATEVER I WANT?

OF COURSE, I WON'T COMPLAIN IF YOU REJECT THE MANUSCRIPT.

大型最徐
制限高 3.

ITS VAST EMPTINESS WAS SUFFOCATING.

I HADN'T LAID EYES ON MANUSCRIPT PAPER IN A WHILE.

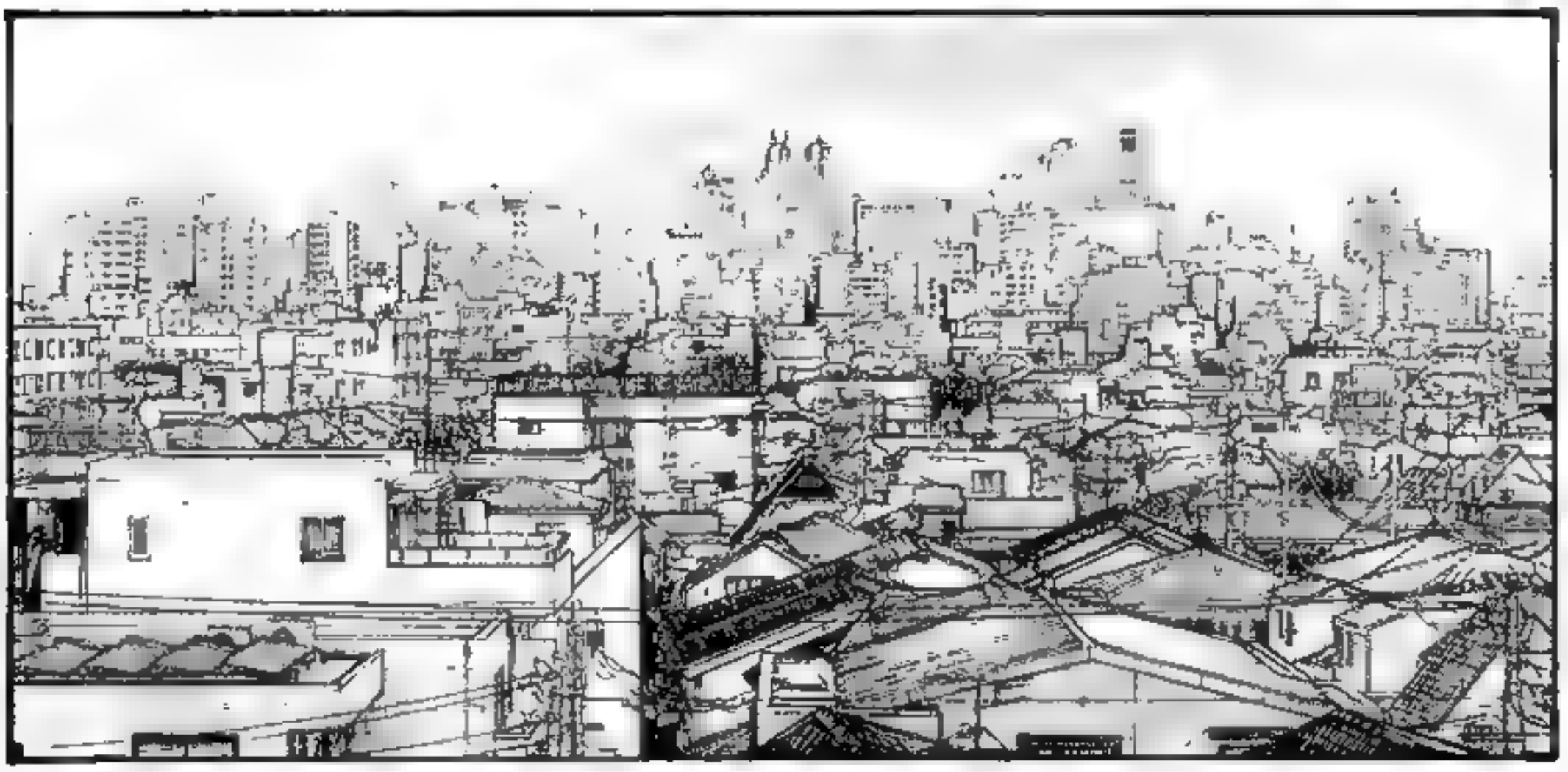
MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

IN MY TEENS, I WOULD HAVE PROBABLY JUST TRAMPLED NAIVELY ALL OVER THAT ENDLESSLY WHITE PAPER.

IN MY TWENTIES, DRIVEN BY UNEASINESS AND ANNOYANCE AT MY LACK OF FAME AND IDENTITY, I WOULD HAVE VENTED MY FEELINGS ON IT.

NOW, ALMOST AT THE END
OF MY THIRTIES, FAMILIAR BOTH
WITH THE JOY OF THE ACCEPTANCE
OF OTHERS PEOPLE AND THE WEIGHT
OF THEIR EXPECTATIONS.

MANGA STREAM.com
DO NOT MIRR



ALL I HAVE LEFT IS
MY TIRED BODY AND MY
MODEST SAVINGS.

MANGA STREAM DO NOT MIRROR

I NO LONGER HAVE ANYTHING I WANT TO WRITE ABOUT.

HAVE ALL BEEN LEFT BETWEEN THE PAGES OF MY MANGA.

MY JOYS, MY PAINS, AND MY LIFE'S ACHIEVEMENTS

WHY I DECIDED BEING A MANGA ARTIST WAS WORTH IT AT ALL.

AT THIS POINT, I DON'T THINK I COULD EVEN TELL

THAT FREEDOM MEANS NOTHING WITHOUT A MEANS AND A PURPOSE.

I SHOULD HAVE TOLD CHIFUYU

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT MIRROR

DING-DONG

OH...

MANGA STREAM .com DO NOT REPRINT

HMM..

IT'S INTEREST-ING.

YOU'VE DONE WELL.

I KNEW YOU HAD TALENT.

THIS IS GREAT, TOMITA.

I JUST DREW IT.

ACTUALLY, MY EDITOR CAME UP WITH THE IDEA AND THE PLOT...

BE MORE CONFIDENT.

THIS WILL TURN OUT WELL, I KNOW IT.

WELL, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO FLESHED IT OUT AND MADE IT A MANGA, TOMITA.

SORRY, I DIDN'T EVEN GET YOU A DRINK. YOU WANT SOME-THING?

UM, FUKA-SAWA...

I HOPE SO.

THANK YOU...

MANGA STREAM.com

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I HAD MY OWN PROBLEMS, TOO.

I'M SORRY ABOUT PICKING FIGHTS WITH YOU AFTER I QUIT...

AND, LIKE, FOR MAKING IT SEEM LIKE I WAS GONNA SUE...

I WAS A BIT UPSET AT THE TIME.

SO I'M ASKING YOU TO JUST FORGET ABOUT ME.

WHAT?..

MANGA STREAM .com

PLEASE. DON'T PRESSURE ME, OR HOLD ME BACK...

I'M TURNING 29 THIS YEAR, I DON'T HAVE TIME ANYMORE...

JUST, PLEASE, I'M BEGGING YOU.

I'M BETTING ALL I HAVE ON THIS MANGA!

I'M SERI-OUS!

DON'T SPREAD WEIRD RUMORS ABOUT ME TO THE EDITORS!

MANGA STREAM .com

HAA...

HAA...

YOU MEAN IT?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT..?

I'M GLAD...

THANKS FOR UNDER-STANDING...

I'D NEVER DO THAT...

I MEAN, IF I STARTED SELLING WELL...

YOU'D GET JEALOUS OF MY SUCCESS.

BUT YOU KNOW, FUKASAWA,

YOU'RE ALWAYS SNEERING HOW THE MANGA INDUSTRY IS DYING...

AND YOU REFUSE TO MAKE EVEN THE SLIGHTEST ATTEMPT TO ACKNOWLEDGE ANYTHING THAT SELLS WELL. I'VE ALWAYS WORRIED...

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR

FUKASAWA, DON'T TREAT MANGA WITH SUCH CONTEMPT.

THERE ARE SO MANY GOOD ONES.

UNLIKE YOU, I REALLY, REALLY LOVE MANGA!

GET OUT.

THE MORE WORTHLESS MANGA BECOMES TO ME.

THE MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU PRATE ON ABOUT MANGA,

DON'T PRATTLE ON ABOUT A LOVE FOR MANGA SO EASILY.

UGH. WHATEVER ...

NOTHING GETS THROUGH TO YOU, DOES IT?

IF YOU HAVE TIME TO YAP,

USE IT TO DRAW INSTEAD.

DO YOU HATE YOURSELF, TOO?

YOU'RE THE SELF-CENTERED ONE, FUKASAWA.

WHY IS EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU SO SELF-CENTERED? YOU'RE ALL JUST FUCKING ARTISTS!

DON'T GET ME WRONG. I DON'T HATE MANGA. I HATE MANGA ARTISTS.

TALK BIG ONCE YOU'VE SOLD MORE THAN ME!

DON'T TALK BACK TO ME!

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FUKA-SAWA...

IS SELLING WELL REALLY SO AMAZING?

YOURS HAVE COME DOWN THE MOST, AFTER ALL...

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DO NOT MIRROR

WHUMP

MANGA STREAM .com
DO NOT MIRROR

RATTLE

RATTLE

RATTLE

THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?!

GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!

RILED UP AND TORMENTED ALREADY, HE LETS THE URGE BOILING DEEP WITHIN HIM OUT. AND IT COLLIDES WITH HER. WHERE WILL HIS DRIFTING SOUL END UP?

MANGA STREAM.com DO NOT MIRROR!

END - 90